

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 FS-01 ISO-00 SY-04 SIG-04 L-03 SCA-01 TRSE-00

ABF-01 INR-10 EUR-06 DRC-01 RSC-01 /051 W

----- 127469

R 121215Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9165

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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E O 11652 N A

TAGS: AFIN, ASEC

SUBJ: CASHIER SHORTAGE-SADIO CISSOKO

REF: STATE 96498

1. CISSOKO WAS TERMINATED APRIL 27 AFTER HE WAS UNABLE TO MEET HIS EXTENDED DEADLINE OF APRIL 22.

2. IT WAS NOT OUR INTENTION TO QTE ASSIST UNQTE CISSOKO IN REPAYING THE STOLEN MONEY BY KEEPING HIM ON SICK LEAVE. IT WAS USED AS AN INDUCEMENT TO ENCOURAGE HIM TO SEEK THE MEANS TO REPAY THE EMBASSY. IT IS HOPED THAT THE DEPT APPRECIATES THE DIFFERENT VALUES OF RIGHT AND WRONG WHICH PREVAIL IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. HE WAS SICK AND BELIEVED HE HAD A RIGHT TO THE LEAVE EVEN UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. TO HAVE TOLD A MAN RACKED WITH FEVER, WHO HADN'T HAD ANY LEAVE IN A YEAR, WHO HAD RUINED HIS LIFE, AND HAD A \$7,000 DEBT TO REPAY THAT HE WOULDN'T BE GIVEN THE LEAVE MONEY WOULD HAVE COMPLETELY DISCOURAGED HIM. IT WAS FELT THAT IT WAS AN INVESTMENT FOR RECOVERY OF THE FULL AMOUNT.

3. THE CHECKS, OTHER THAN THOSE REPORTED IN OUR APRIL 10 OM, ARE ON HAND AND WILL BE RETURNED TO RFC FOR CANCELLATION. WHAT DISPOSITION SHOULD BE MADE OF THE CHECK FOR HIS LUMP SUM LEAVE

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PAYMENT? DO WE CANCEL OR DEPOSIT?

4. ABIDJAN WAS INFO ON BAMAKO 343 AND 847, SO IT IS ASSUMED THAT THE RSO IS AWARE OF THE SITUATION.

5. POST APPRECIATES DEPT'S PATIENCE THIS CASE AND OFFERS A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF OUR APPARENT DISINTEREST WHICH, OF COURSE, IS ANYTHING BUT TRUE. CERTAINLY, NO ONE HERE IS A TRAINED CRIMINOLOGIST, BUT CISSOKO DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE THE THIEF'S PERSONALITY. HE IS A MAN WHO MADE A SERIOUS MISTAKE AND DESPERATELY WANTS TO RECITIFY IT. A CERTAIN INTANGIBLE, PERHAPS FOOLISH, FAITH IN A HUMAN BEING HAS PROMPTED US TO GIVEN HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE THE MONEY. THE EMBASSY WANTS THE MONEY BACK AND ONLY CISSOKO CAN RAISE IT, THE POLICE CAN'T. THE MAN HAS CREATED HIS OWN PUNISHMENT IN THIS TOWN BECAUSE THE GOSSIP IS RUNNING RAMPANT DESPITE OUR EFFORTS TO CONTAIN IT. HE IS NOT LIKELY TO GET ANOTHER JOB OF ANY RESPONSIBILITY BY WHICH HE CAN SUPPORT HIS FAMILY.

6. HE TRAVELED TO DAKAR TO LOCATE THE MERCHANT TO WHOM HE GAVE THE MONEY, AND HE RETURNED WITH HIM. HE HAS KEPT IN TOUCH. UNFORTUNATELY, THE MERCHANT INVESTED IN CLOTH WHICH IS ALREADY A GLUTTED MARKET HERE. REPAYMENT IS GOING TO BE TOO SLOW, AND WE BECOME MORE DISHEARTENED EACH DAY.

7. WE STILL HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT THE FOR MIN'S REACTION, AND THE POSSIBLE RESULTING PROBLEMS, BUT WE ARE RELUCTANTLY TURNING THE CASE OVER TO THE POLICE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BAMAKO01572
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740151-1082
From: BAMAKO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740654/aaaabtww.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 96498
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CASHIER SHORTAGE-SADIO CISSOKO
TAGS: AFIN, ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005